

<A.P. CSP>

Advanced Placement - Computer Science Principles

Summer Assignment

Briarcliff High School

2026 – 2027 School Year

To: Future AP Computer Science Principles Students

Welcome to AP CS Principles! As we eagerly anticipate a great year of Computer Science Principles, there are several required items you need to do to be prepared for the course. Enrolling in this class indicated that you agree to complete this course and the culminating AP CS Principles College Board tasks, assignments, and exam.

I have prepared a summer assignment list that reviews basic CS Principles concepts and practices. It is highly recommended that you spread out the summer assignments and not try to complete them all in the first week of August. CS Principles takes time to process and grasp at a level necessary for success in AP CS Principles. Remember, that AP CS Principles is a college level course and that taking a course of this magnitude in high school is difficult, requires dedication, and is a great investment in your education, so prepare yourself and arrive ready to learn.

Have a great summer and enjoy the AP CS Principles Summer Assignments!

The Summer Assignment: Details

The summer assignment consists of three parts, all completed electronically.

You are required to complete and submit all of the parts:

- 1) Reading and Response (5-slide Presentation)**
- 2) Programming Fundamentals (Khan Academy)**
- 3) Video FYI**

Due date: August 31st, 2026. No exceptions.

Submit your completed materials to Mr. Ball: sball@briarcliffschools.org. The e-mail subject should be in the following style: **"AP CSP SUMMER ASSIGNMENT – [First Name] [Last Name]"**

By completing all parts successfully, you will begin class with a **test grade of 100**.

Incomplete assignments are graded on a scale; if your assignment is severely incomplete, you will not receive a grade.

The Summer Assignment: Reading and Response

- 1) Choose **3 chapters** (there are 9 chapters total in the book) to read from the **book "Blown to Bits" Your Life, Liberty, and Happiness After the Digital Explosion by Hal Abelson, Ken Ledeer & Harry Lewis, Second Edition** available free online (<http://www.bitsbook.com/thebook/>). It is highly recommended that as you read this book, you should identify the major points of each chapter and take notes on any questions or comments you have about what you are reading.
- 2) Create a short 5-slide presentation (you can use PowerPoint or Keynote), where you:
 - summarize what you read (2-3 sentences)
 - how this applies to society in general (2-3 sentences)
 - how this applies to you and your generation, specifically (2-3 sentences)
 - what concerns you have (if any) or wonders you have (if any)
 - closing slide: you can conclude however you like

Please make the slides ... you! Put your own style and spin on them. Let them stand out. Be proud of them! You won't need to present them – but I will see your personality and effort and hard work shine through!

Khan Academy: Programming Fundamentals

Create an account or log in to an existing account on **Khan Academy**. Enroll in the summer assignment class, “**AP CS Principles (2026-27)**” using this link: <https://www.khanacademy.org/join/C76B5MUZ> or class code: **C76B5MUZ**.

E-mail Mr. Ball (sball@briarcliffschools.org) once you’ve done this so Mr. Ball can verify that you’ve got the assignments.

Complete all the assignments. These are designed to introduce you into the programming component of AP CS Principles. There will be two quizzes in the lessons, but the scores you receive on them will not affect your grade. You may reach out to Mr. Lo if you get stuck or have any questions in this area.

The Summer Assignment: Video

Select two of the following videos/films below and watch them; you can also watch some of the recommended YouTube videos to think more about the “why” and “how” computer science works in our everyday lives.

<u>Recommended Feature Films</u>	<u>Recommended YouTube Videos</u>
Hidden Figures (2016) Citizen Four (2014) The Internet's Own Boy (2014) Her (2013) TPB AFK (2013) The Social Network (2010) The Matrix (1999) Apollo 13 (1995) The Right Stuff (1983) Interstellar (2013) The Martian (2014)	Binary Numbers (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LpuPe81bc2w) How does Airplane WIFI work? (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8xUzF_hcg) Encryption & Public Keys (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZghMPWGXexs) AI Generating Images, explained (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVcsDDABEkM)